

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claim 28 without prejudice or disclaimer; and

Please amend claims 1, 16 and 18 as follows:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A system for applying glue to a moving web, the system comprising:

a glue nozzle coupled to a glue reservoir;

the glue nozzle comprising a tip having an outlet opening arranged to apply glue to the moving web while the moving web moves along a direction;

a device that delivers a substance to a region of the outlet opening; and

the device comprising a tube whose tip is angled to correspond to a tapered portion of the tip of the glue nozzle, whereby the tip of the tube is arranged adjacent the tip of the glue nozzle,

wherein a free end of the tip of the tube is positioned approximately generally level with the free end of the tip of the glue nozzle, and

wherein the device is separate from the glue nozzle and delivers the substance behind the outlet opening relative to the direction.

2. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the moving web comprises one of a cigarette paper web in strip form and folding box blanks.

3. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the system is arranged on one of a continuous cigarette making machine and a cigarette packing machine.

4. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the substance comprises at least one of a substance adapted to liquefy the glue, a low-viscosity fluid, water, and water vapor.

5. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the device delivers the substance directly behind the outlet opening relative to the direction.

6. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the device is adapted to deliver the substance in the form of spots.

7. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the tube is a capillary.

Claim 8. (Canceled).

9. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the device is arranged at a distance "d" from the glue nozzle.

10. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the device is one of arranged directly adjacent to the glue nozzle and arranged to abut the glue nozzle.

Claim 11. (Canceled).

12. (Original) The system of claim 1, further comprising a system for feeding the substance to the device.

13. (Original) The system of claim 12, wherein the system for feeding the substance regulates an amount of the substance which is applied to the moving web.

14. (Previously Presented) A system for applying glue to a moving web, the system comprising:

a glue nozzle coupled to a glue reservoir;

the glue nozzle comprising an outlet opening arranged to apply glue to the moving web while the moving web moves along a direction;

a device that delivers a substance to a region of the outlet opening; and

a system for feeding the substance to the device,

wherein the device delivers the substance behind the outlet opening relative to the direction, and

wherein the system for feeding the substance comprises a pressure regulator, a storage device for storing the substance, a system of pipes, a fine filter, a fine measuring
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valve, a directional control valve and a control unit.

15. (Original) The system of claim 14, wherein the system for feeding the substance comprises a measuring unit having a modular construction.

16. (Currently Amended) A method of applying glue to a moving web utilizing a system that includes a glue nozzle coupled to a glue reservoir, the glue nozzle comprising a tip having an outlet opening arranged to apply glue to the moving web, and a device that delivers a substance to a region of the outlet opening, wherein the device is a tube whose tip is arranged adjacent the tip of the glue nozzle and wherein an internal passage of the tube is smaller than an internal passage of the glue nozzle, the method comprising:

applying the glue onto the moving web while the moving web moves along a direction;

feeding the substance behind the outlet opening relative to the direction; and

at least one of:

controlling an amount of the substance which is applied to the moving web;

and

regulating an amount of the substance which is applied to the moving web via a measuring unit.

17. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein the substance comprises at least one of a substance adapted to liquefy the glue, a low-viscosity fluid, water, and water vapor.

18. (Currently Amended) ~~The method of claim 16, further comprising~~ A method of applying glue to a moving web utilizing a system that includes a glue nozzle coupled to a glue reservoir, the glue nozzle comprising a tip having an outlet opening arranged to apply glue to the moving web, and a device that delivers a substance to a region of the outlet opening, wherein the device is a tube whose tip is arranged adjacent the tip of the glue nozzle, the method comprising:

applying the glue onto the moving web while the moving web moves along a direction;

feeding the substance behind the outlet opening relative to the direction; and
at least one of:

controlling an amount of the substance which is applied to the moving web;

and

regulating an amount of the substance which is applied to the moving web via
a measuring unit; and

liquefying the glue after the applying.

19. (Original) The method of claim 16, further comprising liquefying the glue after the glue is applied to the moving web, and wherein the substance comprises at least one of a substance adapted to liquefy the glue, a low-viscosity fluid, water, and water vapor.

20. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein the feeding comprises continuously feeding the substance behind the outlet opening relative to the direction.

21. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein the feeding comprises intermittently feeding the substance behind the outlet opening relative to the direction.

22. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein the feeding comprises cyclically feeding the substance behind the outlet opening relative to the direction.

23. (Original) The method of claim 16, further comprising at least one of regulating the feeding and controlling the feeding.

24. (Original) The method of claim 16, further comprising at least one of regulating the feeding on a timely basis and controlling the feeding on a timely basis.

25. (Original) The method of claim 16, further comprising at least one of regulating the feeding on a quantity basis and controlling the feeding on a quantity basis.

Claims 26-27 (Canceled).

28. (Original) The method of claim 16, further comprising conveying, after the feeding, the moving web away from the device.

29. (Previously Presented) A system for applying glue, the system comprising:
a glue nozzle comprising a tip having an outlet opening;

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the glue nozzle being adapted to apply glue through the outlet opening;

a feeding device that delivers a substance to a region of the outlet opening;

the feeding device being a tube separate from the glue nozzle and whose tip is arranged adjacent the tip of the glue nozzle;

the tip of the tube being angled to correspond to a tapered portion of the tip of the glue nozzle;

a free end of the tip of the tube being positioned approximately generally level with a free end of the tip of the glue nozzle; and

a system for feeding the substance to the feeding device,

wherein the substance comprises at least one of a substance adapted to liquefy the glue, a low-viscosity fluid, water, and water vapor.

30. (Original) A method of applying glue to a moving web utilizing the system of claim 29, the method comprising;

applying the glue onto a moving web while the moving web moves along a direction;

feeding the substance behind the outlet opening relative to the direction; and

regulating an amount of the substance which is applied to the moving web in the region of the outlet opening.